

371 Application of Phillips et al.
Filed September 16, 2005
International Application No. PCT/GB2004/001210
Preliminary Amendment filed September 16, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims:

1. (Original) A dwarf plant, comprising a rootstock and a scion grafted thereon, wherein levels of one or more selected gibberellins in the scion are reduced.
2. (Original) A plant according to claim 1, which is a tree.
3. (Original) A tree according to claim 2, which is a fruit or nut tree.
4. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein the scion is selected from the group consisting of the *Citrus* and *Malus* genera, and the rootstock is of the same genus as the scion or is from a genus compatible with the genus of the scion.
5. (Original) A plant according to claim 4, wherein the scion is selected from the group consisting of: oranges, lemons, limes, grapefruit, pomelos, apples, plums, peaches, almonds, and cherries.
6. (Original) A plant according to claim 5, wherein the scion is selected from the group consisting of: dessert, culinary and cider cultivars of apples.
7. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein the rootstock is from the same genus as the scion.
8. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein the rootstock is a non-dwarfing rootstock.

9. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein the rootstock is a vigorous rootstock.
10. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein gibberellin levels in the scion are reduced by inhibiting a gibberellin synthetic enzyme.
11. (Original) A plant according to claim 10, wherein gibberellin levels in the scion are reduced by inhibiting the production of a gibberellin synthetic enzyme.
12. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein an enzyme having a selected gibberellin as substrate is over-expressed.
13. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein gibberellin levels in the scion are reduced by inhibiting or blocking the expression of 20-oxidase or 3-oxidase associated with the selected gibberellin.
14. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, wherein an enzyme involved in the anabolic pathway for the selected gibberellin is inhibited by gene silencing.
15. (Original) A plant according to claim 14, wherein the silencing is effected by post-transcriptional gene silencing.
16. (Presently amended) A plant according to claim 14 ~~or 15~~, wherein the scion expresses RNAi recognising mRNA encoded the selected gibberellin.
17. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any of claims 14 to 16~~, claim 14, wherein the scion contains transformant, transcribable DNA having all or an effective part of SEQ ID NO. 1 or of the corresponding antisense sequence thereof.
18. (Presently amended) A plant according to claim 14 ~~or 15~~, wherein the scion expresses a *trans*-acting ribozyme against mRNA encoded the selected gibberellin.

19. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any of claims 14 to 18~~, claim 14, wherein an expression product effects the gene silencing, the expression product being operably associated with a tissue specific promoter.
20. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, in which gibberellin 2-oxidase in the scion is over-expressed.
21. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein the gibberellins are selected from gibberellin1 and gibberellin3.
22. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein the cultivar for the scion is selected from bountiful cropping plants and those otherwise known for the excellence of their harvest, prior to transformation to achieve reduced gibberellin levels.
23. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein the rootstock is an invigorating rootstock.
24. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein the rootstock is selected for drought resistance, pest resistance, disease resistance, and/or toxin resistance.
25. (Presently amended) A plant according to ~~any preceding claim~~, claim 1, wherein the rootstock is the M25 or MM106 rootstock.
26. (Original) A process for obtaining a dwarf plant, the plant comprising a rootstock and a scion grafted thereto, wherein the plant is of reduced stature by comparison with non-dwarfed plants of the same cultivar from which the scion is derived, comprising transforming the cultivar to exhibit reduced levels of gibberellin, and grafting a scion from the resulting cultivar onto a selected rootstock.
27. (Original) A process according to claim 26, wherein expression of gibberellin 20-

371 Application of Phillips et al.
Filed September 16, 2005
International Application No. PCT/GB2004/001210
Preliminary Amendment filed September 16, 2005

oxidase is inhibited in the transformed cultivar.

28. (Presently amended) A plant produced by the process of claim 26 or ~~27~~.